

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-8 and 11-23 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a computer system for associating an identifier with a virtual process, the virtual process comprising a plurality of processes, the method comprising:

starting a first process;

associating the first process with a virtual process identifier;

~~originating~~ creating, from the first process, a second process; and

associating the second process with the virtual process identifier.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~[[:]]~~ the virtual process comprises a virtual private server, the virtual private server comprising a plurality of processes that together provide the functionality of a dedicated server application program.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~[[:]]~~ the first process comprises a system initialization process.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein associating the first process with the virtual process identifier further comprises ~~[[:]]~~ storing an entry in a data structure ~~in computer memory~~, the entry comprising the virtual process identifier and a process identification number of the first process.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising ~~[[:]]~~
intercepting a system call, made by the first process, that creates a process; ~~and~~
~~associating the process being created with the virtual process identifier of a~~
~~process that made the system call.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 ~~further comprising:~~

~~storing object code comprising instructions to associate the process being created~~
~~with the virtual process identifier of the process that made the system call;~~
~~and~~

wherein intercepting the system call comprises replacing a ~~pointer to the system~~
~~call~~ first pointer, which points to object code of the system call, with a
~~pointer to the stored object code~~ second pointer, which points to different
object code, such that making the system call causes the different object
code to execute.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 ~~wherein storing object code comprises~~
further comprising inserting the different object code into the operating system.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein ~~inserting~~ inserting the different object
code into the operating system comprises loading a module into a running operating system
kernel, the module comprising the different object code

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

loading, by a modified loader program, the first process into computer memory;
starting, by the modified loader program, the first process; and
storing, by the modified loader program, an entry in a data structure in computer
memory, the entry comprising the virtual process identifier and a process
identification number of the first process.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

starting, by a virtual process manager program, the first process; and
storing, by the manager program, an entry in a data structure in computer
memory, the entry comprising the virtual process identifier and a process
identification number of the first process.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing a computer program
product for associating an identifier with a virtual process, the virtual process comprising a
plurality of processes, the computer program product comprising:

program code for starting a first process;
program code for associating the first process with a virtual process identifier;
program code for ~~originating~~ creating, from the first process, a second process;
and
program code for associating the second process with the virtual process
identifier; ~~and~~
~~a computer-readable medium on which the program codes are stored.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ computer-readable medium of
claim 11 ~~further comprising~~; wherein the computer program product further comprises program
code for storing an entry in a data structure ~~in computer memory~~, the entry comprising the virtual
process identifier and a process identification number of the first process.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ computer-readable medium of
claim 11 ~~further comprising~~ wherein the computer program product further comprises:

program code for intercepting a system call that creates a process; and

program code for associating the process being created with the virtual process identifier of a process that made the system call.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ computer-readable medium of claim 11 ~~further comprising~~ wherein the computer program product further comprises:

program code comprising instructions to associate the process being created with the virtual process identifier of the process that made the system call; and
program code for replacing a pointer to the system call with a pointer to the instructions to associate, such that making the system call causes the instructions to associate to execute.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ computer-readable medium of claim 14 ~~further comprising~~ wherein the computer program product further comprises program code for storing the instructions to associate in the operating system by loading a module into a running operating system kernel, the module comprising the instructions to associate.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ computer-readable medium of claim 11 ~~further comprising~~ wherein the computer program product further comprises:

program code for starting the first process; and
program code for storing an entry in a data structure in computer memory, the entry comprising the virtual process identifier and a process identification number of the first process.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ computer-readable medium of claim 16 ~~further comprising; wherein the computer program product further comprises~~ program code for loading the first process into computer memory.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer system for associating an identifier with a virtual process, the virtual process comprising a plurality of processes, the computer system comprising:
an initiation module, for starting a first process;
an ~~origination~~ creation module, coupled to the initiation module, for ~~originating~~ creating, from the first process, a second process; and
an association module, coupled to the ~~origination~~ creation module, for associating the first process with a virtual process identifier, and for associating the second process with the virtual process identifier.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 18 further comprising ~~[[:]]~~ a storage module, coupled to the association module, for storing an entry in a data structure in computer memory, the entry comprising the virtual process identifier and a process identification number of the first process.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 18 further comprising ~~[[:]]~~ an interception module, coupled to the association module, for intercepting a system call that creates a process; and wherein the association module is further for associating the process being created with the virtual process identifier of a process that made the system call.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20 further comprising ~~[[:]]~~ a storage module, coupled to the interception module, for storing object code comprising instructions to

associate the process being created with the virtual process identifier of the process that made the system call; and wherein the interception module is further for replacing a pointer to the system call with a pointer to the stored object code, such that making the system call causes the object code to execute.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21 further comprising [[:]]coupled to the storage module, an insertion module, for inserting the instructions to associate in the operating system by loading a module into a running operating system kernel.

23. (Currently Amended) A method in a computer system for associating an identifier with a virtual process, the virtual process comprising a plurality of processes, the method comprising:

starting the virtual process by executing a system initialization process;

associating the system initialization process with a virtual process identifier;

associating a second process ~~originating~~ created from the system initialization process with the virtual process identifier;

and wherein the virtual process is comprised of a system initialization process and a second process ~~originating~~ created therefrom.

24. (Previously Presented) A method in a computer system for associating an identifier with a virtual process, the virtual process comprising a plurality of processes, the method comprising:

associating initialization processes with respective virtual process identifiers; and

in response to a process being created from one of the initialization processes,
associating the process created by the initialization process with the virtual
process identifier associated with the initialization process.

25. (Previously Presented) A method in a computer system for associating an identifier
with a virtual process, the virtual process comprising a plurality of processes, the method
comprising:

loading, by a modified loader program, a process that is a part of the virtual
process into computer memory; and
storing, by the modified loader program, an entry in a data structure in computer
memory, the entry comprising the virtual process identifier and a process
identification number of the loaded process.